

of the Voting Rights Act—yes, a bipartisan reauthorization of the Federal Voting Rights Act—which established protections for language minorities, like Spanish speakers. In just 10 years, with Willie's and other activists' hard work on the ground, the number of Latinos registered to vote nearly doubled, and in the same 10 years, the number of Latinos holding elected office also nearly doubled.

That is the power of the freedom to vote and the power of what we can do here in the Senate and here in Congress—give every American a voice in our democracy.

Now, in his time, Willie fought to do exactly this, like the generations of Americans of all ages, colors, creeds, and genders who came before him. Their efforts reflect a fundamental truth about our country: We are stronger when more Americans can vote, and we are stronger when all communities have a say in government. But the path to realizing our highest ideals has never been easy. From a convention hall in Seneca Falls to a bridge in Selma, from Willie's home in San Antonio, TX, to this very Chamber, the voting rights' victories of each generation have been hard-fought and hard-won, and it is no different today.

In recent months, we have seen the latest challenge to the core of our democracy: scores of new laws proposed by Republican State legislatures to target the past five decades of gains in voting rights; cynical politicians, spreading false claims of voter fraud because they fear losing in a fair election. You can see the danger of it even in my home State of California where, just yesterday, we held a recall election. Republicans ran a campaign of disinformation, spreading baseless claims of massive voter fraud before the polls even closed, before they even opened, and long before a single ballot was even counted. It is straight out of Donald Trump's playbook—the same playbook that perpetuated the Big Lie and fueled the domestic terrorism that the world witnessed on January 6.

It is no coincidence that the cynical claims of voter fraud are often targeted at communities of color. In the face of these challenges, we must overcome, together, again. We must renew our collective fight for our democracy. It is up to us. The time is now to get the job done.

It is an honor to lead the Freedom to Vote Act alongside my colleagues Senators KLOBUCHAR, MERKLEY, WARNOCK, MANCHIN, KING, TESTER, and KAINE.

The Freedom to Vote Act will make it easier for all eligible citizens to register to vote and to cast their ballots. This bill will set a baseline of protections for voters across the country, with commonsense, proven reforms that have already been successfully implemented in blue and red States across the country. I urge all of my colleagues to join us and vote to strengthen our democracy.

As the first Latino to represent California in this body, in the U.S. Senate, I am proud to be spending this Hispanic Heritage Month fighting for voting rights because so many of our community's gains have been achieved through political participation and representation. The fight to expand voting rights is, indeed, part of our heritage. It is also a tradition that unites Americans because we have come together, generation after generation, to expand the promise of our democracy for all. Yes, we are strongest when every eligible voter can make their voice heard.

"Your vote is your voice."

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

"Your vote is your voice."

I yield the floor.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues: Senator PADILLA, with your great experience as secretary of state and how that has assisted us in coming together on this bill; Senator WARNOCK, with the passion and firsthand experience you have in Georgia; Senator KAINE, for an extraordinary speech, wherein we all had to step back and think about our job description: to protect and defend the Constitution. It is not just ours on this side of the aisle; it is also our colleagues' on the other side of the aisle.

We have this special obligation to protect this democracy and to cherish it and to pass it on to the next generation. The way you do that fundamentally is by guaranteeing Americans the freedom to vote. That is all this bill is about—putting in place minimum national standards that we see in so many of our States but that, sadly, right now, are threatened in a number of those States for no other reason except—to quote Reverend Warnock—that some people don't want some people to vote. Our democracy is too important to let that happen.

With that, we are going to end our segment here, and we will be back to discuss this bill more next week.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING CORPORAL DAEGAN WILLIAM-TYELER PAGE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen Marine, Cpl Daegan William-Tyler Page. Corporal Page was a son of the heartland, originally from Red Oak, IA, and raised in Omaha, NE. He is one of 13 brave servicemembers who gave his life in service to our country during the evac-

uation of Afghanistan. Just 23 years old when he was killed at the attack at the Kabul airport, he gave his life defending our citizens and our allies as they tried to escape from Afghanistan.

Right after graduating from Millard South High School, Corporal Page joined the Marines and was part of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment. He enjoyed playing hockey, and was an avid sports fan, especially of the Chicago Blackhawks. Corporal Page loved spending time outdoors, hunting, and being in the water. He was a Boy Scout, a good friend to many, and a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

My prayers are with his parents, Wendy and Craig Adelson and Greg and Jenni Page, as well as his brothers and sister, his grandparents, his girlfriend Jessica Ellison, and his other family members and many friends.

We all owe Corporal Page and his fellow marines a debt of gratitude. He and those he served with rescued countless Americans and allies. They went into the chaos of the withdrawal from Afghanistan to help strangers that they never met—to save lives. There is no doubt in my mind that many lives were saved because of Corporal Page's service, and his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND
PENSIONS,

Washington, DC, August 3, 2021.

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN618, the nomination of David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, having been referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

On the question of reporting the nomination without recommendation, 11 ayes to 11 noes.

In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the RECORD pursuant to the resolution.

PATTY MURRAY,
Chair.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2747. A bill to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1973. A communication from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting, a report relative to Article III judgeship recommendations for the 117th Congress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1974. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to information on the centralized suspicious orders reporting database; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1975. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, a legislative proposal entitled "Cybercrime Mitigation Act"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND
JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 2749. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds to close or relocate the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, California; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2750. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to establish a precision agriculture loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2751. A bill to establish an occupational safety and health standard to protect farmworkers from wildfire smoke and excessive heat, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. COONS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CARPER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2752. A bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 2753. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize lawful permanent resident status for certain college graduates who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2754. A bill to provide funding for the deployment of Next Generation 9-1-1, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 2755. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to States to empower public institutions of higher education in the States to provide student support services to students from low-income backgrounds, historically underrepresented students, first-generation college enrollees, parenting students, students with disabilities, and student veterans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 2756. A bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal, in commemoration of the service members who perished as a result of the attack in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, during the evacuation of citizens of the United States and Afghan allies at Hamid Karzai International Airport, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. Res. 365. A resolution honoring the life, legacy, and achievements of MacNolia Cox; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Res. 366. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as "Patriot Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DAINES, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Con. Res. 15. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the withdrawal of Armed Forces from Afghanistan does not undermine or diminish the sacrifice, efforts, and accomplishments of the members of the Armed Forces, diplomats, humanitarians, allies, and partners; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 98

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for neighborhood revitalization, and for other purposes.

S. 212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 212, a bill to amend the Inter-

nal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 216

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 216, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a grant program to award grants to eligible entities to purchase and install, as applicable, zero emissions port equipment and technology, and for other purposes.

S. 754

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 754, a bill to provide health insurance benefits for outpatient and inpatient items and services related to the diagnosis and treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 921

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 921, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to further protect officers and employees of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1134

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1134, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Master Sergeant Rodrick "Roddie" Edmonds in recognition of his heroic actions during World War II.

S. 1404

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1404, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23d Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133d Signal Service Company in recognition of their unique and distinguished service as a "Ghost Army" that conducted deception operations in Europe during World War II.

S. 1479

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1479, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for taxpayers who remove lead-based hazards.

S. 1663

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1663, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, and title 39, United States Code, to provide the United States Postal Service the authority to mail alcoholic beverages, and for other purposes.

S. 1772

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan